

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4702

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a special payment rate for Medicare-dependent psychiatric units furnishing services under the Medicare Program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 2000

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Mr. CLEMENT) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a special payment rate for Medicare-dependent psychiatric units furnishing services under the Medicare Program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Rural Mental Health  
5 Relief Act of 2000”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE CLASS OF PPS-EX-**  
2 **EMPT PSYCHIATRIC FACILITIES.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE CLASS.—(1) Sec-  
4 tion 1886(b)(3)(H)(iv) of the Social Security Act (42  
5 U.S.C. 1395ww(b)(3)(H)(iv)) is amended—

6 (A) by redesignating subclauses (II) and (III)  
7 as subclauses (III) and (IV), respectively;

8 (B) in subclause (I), by inserting “(other than  
9 medicare-dependent psychiatric units)” after “such  
10 subsection”; and

11 (C) by inserting after subclause (I) the fol-  
12 lowing new subclause:

13 “(II) Medicare-dependent psychiatric units, as  
14 defined in subparagraph (J).”.

15 (2) Section 1886(b)(7)(B) of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
16 1395ww(b)(7)(B)) is amended—

17 (A) by redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii) as  
18 clauses (iii) and (iv), respectively;

19 (B) in clause (i), by inserting “(other than  
20 medicare-dependent psychiatric units)” after “such  
21 subsection”; and

22 (C) by inserting after clause (i) the following  
23 new clause:

24 “(ii) Medicare-dependent psychiatric units, as  
25 defined in paragraph (3)(J).”.

1 (b) DEFINITION OF MEDICARE-DEPENDENT PSY-  
2 CHIATRIC UNITS.—Section 1886(b)(3) of such Act (42  
3 U.S.C. 1395ww(b)(3)) is amended by adding at the end  
4 the following new subparagraph:

5 “(J)(i) For purposes of subparagraph (H)(iv)(II) and  
6 paragraph (7)(B)(ii), the term ‘medicare-dependent psy-  
7 chiatric unit’ means a psychiatric unit described in the  
8 matter following clause (v) of subsection (d)(1)(B) that—

9 “(I) has 12 or fewer beds,

10 “(II) is a distinct part of a hospital that has  
11 150 or fewer beds and that is located in a rural area  
12 (as defined in section 1886(d)(2)(D)), and

13 “(III) is medicare-dependent.

14 “(ii) For purposes of clause (i)(III), the term ‘medi-  
15 care-dependent’ means, with respect to a unit for a cost  
16 reporting period, that not less than 60 percent of inpatient  
17 days or discharges of the unit during the preceding cost  
18 reporting period were attributable to individuals who are  
19 entitled to benefits under part A and have attained age  
20 65.”.

21 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
22 subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect as if included in  
23 the enactment of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

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